

VAW-7

NEW CLAIMS 9-17

A 9. (new) A method for setting a process for manufacturing a sealing seam, said method comprising:

- providing heat to sealing partners;
- using a temperature measuring element,
- measuring a temperature of an interface between said sealing partners during and after said providing; and
- establishing said process based on said temperature.

10. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein said establishing comprises setting a time-temperature-pressure progression.

11. (new) The method of claim 9 wherein said establishing comprises designating a time, said time to occur during said manufacturing, said time for performing a task selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) a tightness check;
- (b) mechanical loadability; and
- (c) a combination of (a) and (b).

12. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising, when at least one of said sealing partners comprises at least one sealing layer, identifying a time at which said temperature exceeds a melting temperature of said layer.

Al 13. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising, when at least one of said sealing partners comprises at least one sealing layer, evaluating, between a first time and a second time, an integral of a time-temperature progression of said temperature; wherein:

said first time is a time at which said temperature exceeds a melting temperature of said layer; and

said second time is a time at which said temperature falls below a solidification temperature of said layer.

14. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising, when at least one of said sealing partners comprises at least one sealing layer, evaluating, between a first value of said temperature and a second value of said temperature, an integral of a time-temperature progression of said temperature;

wherein:

said first value is a value of said temperature when said temperature exceeds a melting temperature of said layer; and

said second value is a value of said temperature when said temperature falls below a solidification temperature of said layer.

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15. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising, when at least one of said sealing partners comprises at least one sealing layer, identifying a time at which said temperature falls below a melting temperature of said layer.

16. (new) The method of claim 9 further comprising, when at least one of said sealing partners comprises at least one sealing layer that undergoes recrystallization, detecting said recrystallization based on a reduction in a cooling rate.

17. (new) The method of claim 16 further comprising identifying a time, at least a portion of said recrystallization occurring at said time.